IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

Applicants

: Thomas J. Bachinski et al.

Application No.: 09/406,575

Confirmation No.: 1763

Filed

: September 24, 1999

For

: MEDICAL GRAFTING CONNECTORS AND

FASTENERS

Group Art Unit

: 3738

Examiner

: Paul B. Prebilic

New York, New York 10020 May 30, 2003

Commissioner for Patents Mail Stop RCE P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

REPLY_TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), applicant hereby petitions for a one-month extension of time to reply to the Office Action dated February 6, 2003. With the extension, a response is due on or before June 6, 2003. A check in the amount of \$110.00, in payment of the one-month extension fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(1), is enclosed herewith.